

## Q & A from the Chat

Q: Can Co-PI be an international partner?

A: Yes, of course.

Q: Can Co-PI also be from another Austrian University?

A: As long as main PI is from Vienna and the budget allocation rules are fulfilled (i.e. either minimum 80% or 51% of the budget to Viennese institutions), the Co-PIs can come from anywhere in the world - also in Vienna, elsewhere in Austria or internationally. The 80% or 51% rule depends on whether the project is a regular WWTF Project or a Joint Project with Lower Austria.

Q: Can the co-PI be a private institution?

A: Private universities and non-university research institutions are also permitted as partners.

Q: Does the requested budget (per proposal) influence the assessment of the proposal (so that 'cheaper' projects will have an advantage)?

A: The excellence and the relevance of the project will be the main assessment criteria. The budget will be evaluated in the sense of its feasibility and justifiability.

Q: Are private universities and non-university research institutions eligible to apply as PIs (lead of the collaboration)?

A: Yes, as long as they are in Vienna

Q: Are non-university partners without research institution status (eg. private companies) permitted as partners?

A: Private companies are not eligible for WWTF funding. However, they are permitted as self-funded partners who bring expertise to the project.

Q: How exactly should the following criterion exactly be proven in the short proposal: The PI&C must have an excellent scientific track record and a proven capability to manage projects?

A: The core team members must submit their CV (a template will be provided). The CV template asks for awards, other third party funding, professional and scholarly activities and a publication summary. With this, the jury members and future reviewers will get insights about the scientific track record.

Q: 3 researchers mean from three partner institutions? or 3 researchers from the PI organisation?

A: The three core team members can be from the same or different institutions.

Q: Do you also have (panel) experts outside public health? how the value and feasibility of interdisciplinarity will be evaluated?

A: We cover the topic interdisciplinarity with a couple of experts having a background in interdisciplinary research approaches.

Q: Is it possible to know the fields of expertise of the jury?

A: Unfortunately, we cannot provide any information about the jury compilation until the final funding decision.

Q: Can expense allowances, e.g. for socio-economically less well-off groups, be charged as material costs?

A: Yes, for honorarium for participants in your research project, this can be budgeted as non-personnel costs.

Q: Is there a minimum number of peer-reviewed publications in a certain time-frame, which a core researcher needs to have in public health?

A: No, we don't stipulate a certain number. The most important aspect is that the PI or co-PI has the relevant expertise for the project. Career interruptions are also taken into account.

Q: Do you also promote "early career researchers" (PhD students etc.) to work in those projects?

A: Yes, we certainly encourage early career researchers to be involved! One aspect to be assessed is also career development prospects for the team.

Q: Could technical personnel also be funded through the call?

A: Yes, project technicians may also be funded

Q: Can Co-PI submit the proposal through the online submission system, or must it be done by PI?

A: Unfortunately, our current submission system does not allow for multiple users to get access to a shared project proposal. So currently only the PI can edit the submission.

Q: Is there a min or max number of keywords?

A: There is a maximum of 250 characters. The minimum is 1 character.

Q: Are the WWTF projects and Joint Projects assessed as separate 'tracks', that is, could the chance of acceptance be different?

A: All projects will be assessed using the same evaluation criteria and standards, i.e. there is no quota for either form.

Q: The ideal composition of the three core team is then for example: two senior established researchers (with excellent track record) and one junior with a aim of career development (or the other way around)?

A: This is difficult to answer - it depends very much on the respective expertise required for the project, how much of a role they should play, and the exact profile of the core team members.

Q: Budget: do you expect any co-financing to be included in the budget plan?

A: Co-financing and in-kind financing should not be included in the budget itself - the budget should only be costs required from WWTF. However, in-kind financing can be described under "feasibility" if relevant.

Q: So non-personell costs is up to 30%?

A: Correct.

Q: Would honorarium to the participants to the research (ex. patients-research-partners) be considered as personal cost or non-personal cost?

A: Honorarium will fall under non-personnel costs.

Q: Is 250.000€ a minimum requirement for a project or will "cheaper" projects be funded too?

A: We have set the minimum requirement to provide an idea of the "scale" of project that we are seeking. Thus, much smaller/shorter projects may fall somewhat outside our scope.

Q: Are the signatures required on the final proposal or on a seperate sheet/form?

A: The sheet for signatures may be downloaded separately. As soon as the names and institutions have been entered, this sheet can be downloaded.

Q: Does the project leader need a certain amount of publications in the field?

A: No, we do not set a minimum number of publications, but please be aware that a competitive record is important for displaying your scientific excellence in the field.

Q: How do you prioritize the core team's composition in terms of senior expertise/excellence and early career (female) scientists?

A: We do not have a specific formula per se, in terms of prioritising. Having the required expertise is certainly a key criteria. However, depending on the specific expertise required, we believe this may come equally well from senior scientists as early career scientist.

Q: Can you share with us the evaluation criteria for the panel members? I know it was transparent in previous call

A: Yes, the evaluation criteria can also be found in the document "Call Specifications"

[https://www.wwtf.at/upload/LS22\\_CallSpecifications.pdf](https://www.wwtf.at/upload/LS22_CallSpecifications.pdf)

Q: Is inclusion of preliminary findings related to the proposed project important or encouraged in the short proposal?

A: Yes, preliminary data can certainly be valuable and included in either "background" or "expected results" or "methods and feasibility" of the short proposal.

Q: If my planned research evolves around a chronic disease - is there there a minimum incidence rate to be eligible for this Public Health call.

A: No, there is no minimum incidence per se. We do request that the target group be as well defined as possible

Q: So if my target group is between 0.5 and 1% of the general population that would work..

A: Absolutely!

Q: Can I include in the budget personal cost for co-PI (s) abroad?

A: Yes, as long as the budget rules are satisfied and the co-PI him/herself is not in a permanent position with salary covered by their institution.

Q: for the personnel costs we look at the salary sheet of fwf and enhance them per year for 3% are there rules of wwtf for the calculation of the personnel costs?

A: Yes, our cost planning spreadsheet also includes an automatic 3% increase per year.

Q: In the last decade big efforts are being placed in several disciplines of public health on creating consortia (EU or worldwide) and pooling existing data rather than collecting new data. Would such a project be fundable or is the collection of new local data key to this call?

A: Drawing upon existing data is certainly permitted. As you mentioned, relevance for the Vienna region is also a key criteria for this call, so we would also need this aspect to be covered.

Q: Is ethics approval required for jan 18?

A: For the short proposal, we need an indication if ethical approval is required and a brief description of the reasons. However, the full approval is only required with submission of the full proposal in May.